

# THE CAMBRIDGE STATISTICS DISCUSSION GROUP

**Thursday 7th February 2002 7:15 for 7:45**

The Large Seminar Room, Institute of Public Health,  
University Forvie Site, Robinson Way, Cambridge

## Exploiting Biological Potential

**Ian MacPherson**  
PRISM Training & Consultancy Ltd,

**Abstract:** With the advent of genomic sciences and associated technologies, the opportunities to exploit the wealth of biological information generated by assays, processes and systems have never been greater. This requires experimental and analysis techniques capable of generating and interpreting 'information-rich' data and investigating many influencing factors, usually in a resource-constrained environment. There are three habits of an effective statistician which will help scientific colleagues extract, understand and exploit this information, and which are not restricted purely to biology. A case history of a fermentation process will be used to demonstrate how effective these three habits can be to the process, analytical and bioscience industries.

**Speaker:** Ian Macpherson has over 20 years experience in the pharmaceutical industry, having supported various areas of non-clinical research and development and seen various mergers and harmonisations with Wellcome, SmithKline & French, Beecham and finally SmithKline Beecham. He left a management role in the latter just over a year ago to form PRISM Training & Consultancy Ltd with a colleague, aimed at supporting experimenters in any research, development or manufacturing environment through provision of training, consultancy and software development.

**Directions:** (From Central Cambridge) Turn right off Hills Road into the Addenbrooke's site then turn left at the hospital roundabout onto Robinson Way. Follow Robinson Way until you see an access road on the left signed 'Forvie Site' (but note that the sign is on your right). Turn into the access road and follow signs - first to the Institute and then to the Large Seminar Room. There is ample car parking. The front doors will be locked at 7:45.

### Provisional Next Meetings:

7th March - James Wood (Animal Health Trust) on 'Multilevel modelling of racecourse fatalities: the younger the safer.'  
4th April - Toby Prevost (CAMS) .

**Supper:** Some members eat before a talk at the University Centre meeting in the downstairs bar at 6pm. All welcome !

**Subscriptions:** of 4 pounds per member are now due for the 2001-2002 session. Cheques should be made payable to Robert Milroy and may be posted to the secretary at the address below.

**A REMINDER: ANYONE WHO DOESN'T MIND E-MAILED NOTICES REPLACING THEIR POSTAL ONES (IF THEY HAVEN'T ALREADY) PLEASE CONTACT THE SECRETARY. MANY THANKS.**

**Secretary:** Peter Watson, MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit, 15 Chaucer Road, Cambridge CB2 2EF;  
telephone 01223 355294 Extension 722; E-mail [peter.watson@mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk](mailto:peter.watson@mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk)